Are Gender Based Discriminations Disappearing From India ?

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ARE GENDER BASED DISCRIMINATIONS DISAPPEARING FROM INDIA ?

WORKING PAPER

MARCH 1997

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ARE GENDER BASED DISCRIMINATIONS DISAPPEARING FROM INDIA ?

ABSTRACT

At various points in time, studies in various regions in India, have documented the existence of discrimination against the girls. However, in the data collected from five rural areas from five states in India, no gender differences could be documented in the nutritional status of the under five children, immunization coverage, reported sickness and treatment taken, even when subgroups of population, by caste and asset holding of the household, were compared.

Gender differences in the educational levels of girls and boys were absent in one study area; and in others, the differences tended to loose significance as the social position (higher caste) and economic status (asset holding) of the household improved. A trend of reducing differences between the female and male educational levels was observed in all areas.

The levels of nutrition in pre-school children and education in nine to fifteen year old children, were found to rise parallel to the available facility in the area and improving social and economic position of the family. Some of the factors influencing nutritional status in girls and boys varied. The factors affecting education varied in two of the five areas, where educational levels in girls were very low.

We conclude that the gender differences in India are gradually reducing and disappearing as the development progresses. However, there is a need to closely study the processes and differential factors influencing the processes in girls and boys, and plan development inputs accordingly; in order to foster this observed positive trend.

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ARE GENDER BASED DISCRIMINATIONS DISAPPEARING FROM INDIA ?

Dr. Deepti Chirmulay

Gender issues are on the centre stage of the debate involving development and have become the major concern of today. Several studies over the last few decades, have demonstrated existence of differentials between the girls and the boys, the women and the men. At various points in time, studies in various regions in India, have documented that the girls are discriminated against. The girls are breast fed for shorter duration and are poorly nourished, they are not sent to school and are married off at an early age. The women eat last and least, do not receive early treatment in case of sickness.

And yet in the most recent nation wide survey, the National Family Health Survey (NFHS), 1993; there were no demonstrated, statistically significant differences in the nutritional status of girls and boys under five years age. While analysing the data collected in mid 1994, over five rural areas, in five states of India by the BAIF Development Research Foundation, Pune, we observed interesting trend of disappearing differential between the girls and boys.

Data sources :

The data was collected from five selected rural areas, through a cross sectional study and qualitative investigations. In each area, over three thousand families, or above fifteen thousand individuals were included in the study. Information regarding the demography, the educational, social and economic background of the family and anthropometry of children under five years, was gathered by a team of trained investigators, doctors, sociologists and anthropologists.

RESULTS :

The five rural areas included in the study were : Gandevi (Dist. Valsad, Gujarat), Akole (Dist. Ahmadnagar, Maharashtra), Garag (Dist. Dharwad, Karnatak), Karchhana (Dist.Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh) and Raila (Dist. Bhilwada, Rajasthan). **Table 1** gives the details about the study areas and populations covered.

Educational scenario :

Infrastructure and facility related to education varied between the study areas. Facility in Gandevi (Guj) and in Akole (Mah) were fairly good. In both these areas there were primary schools in each village, up to secondary education available in larger villages and higher educational facility reachable within a distance of one to eight kilometres. While in Raila (Raj) the villages were small and scattered, and only a few had even primary school.

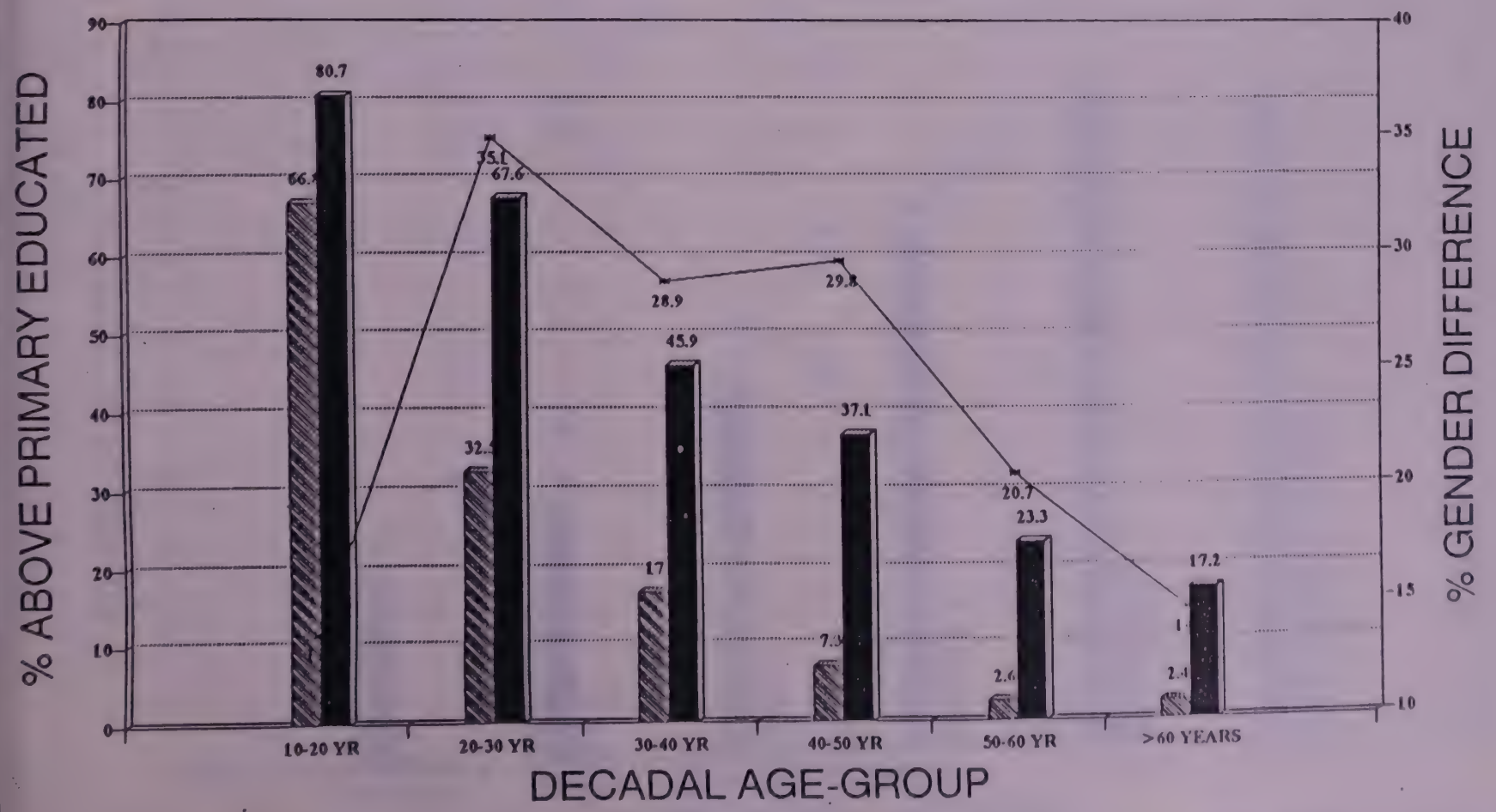
The proportion of children between 9-15 years, educated above primary level also varied between study areas; and this was parallel to the facilities and development in the area. It was maximum in Gandevi (Guj) 71.7% and minimum in Raila (Raj) 15.9%.

Gender differences in educational levels

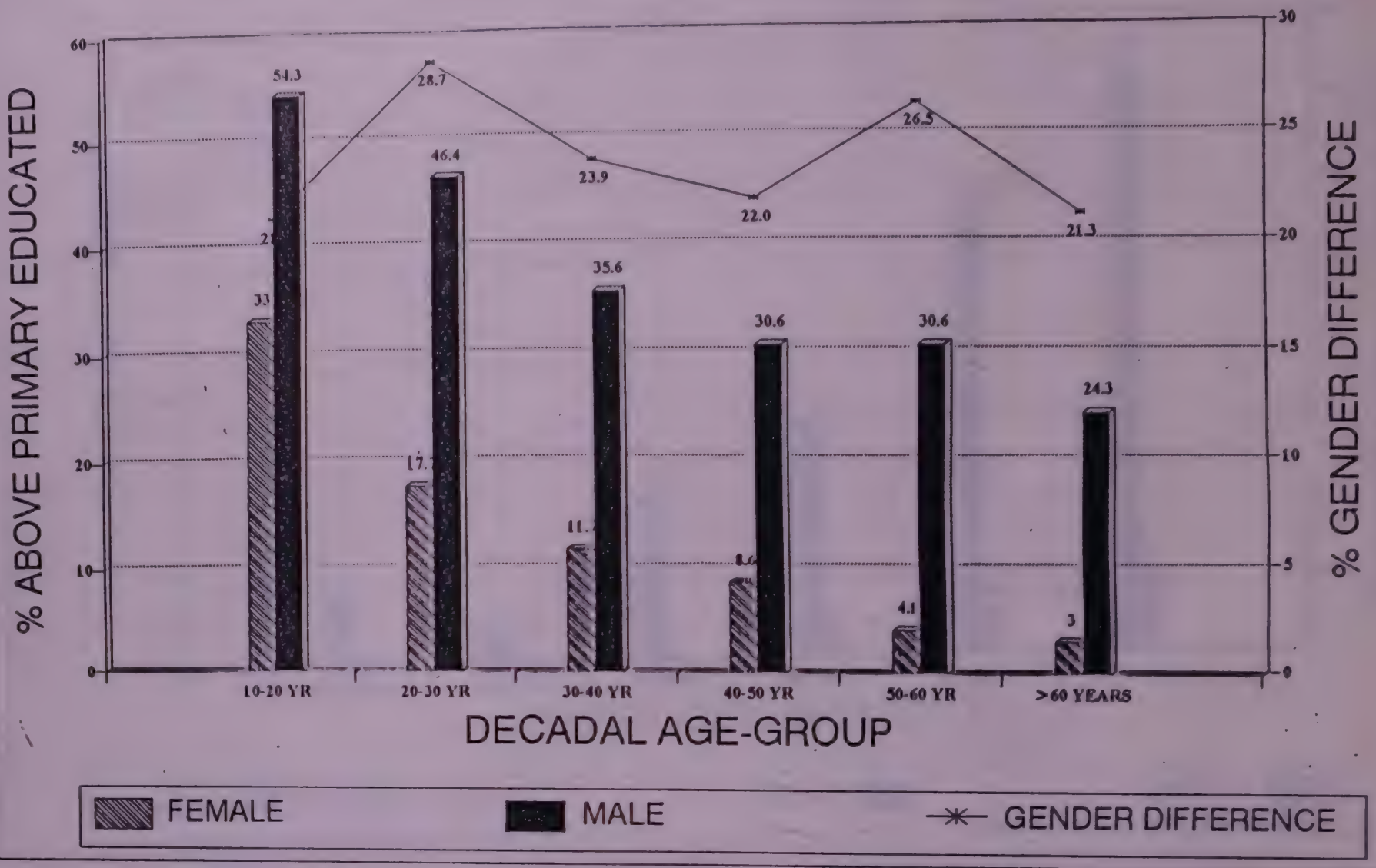
Educational levels in females and males were compared separately for each decade-age-group in the population. A trend of improving educational levels and reducing gender differences was observed in all the study areas. This is graphically presented in the **figure 1**. When educational levels of girls and boys were compared by subgroups, based on Age-group, Caste-group and Asset-holding-group; a trend of decreasing differences was observed.

GENDER DIFFERENCES OVER DECADES
IN >PRIMARY EDUCATION, GANDEVI (GUJ)

GENDER DIFFERENCES OVER DECADES
IN >PRIMARY EDUCATION, AKOLE (MAH)



GENDER DIFFERENCES OVER DECADES
IN >PRIMARY EDUCATION, GARAG (KAR)



GENDER DIFFERENCES OVER DECADES
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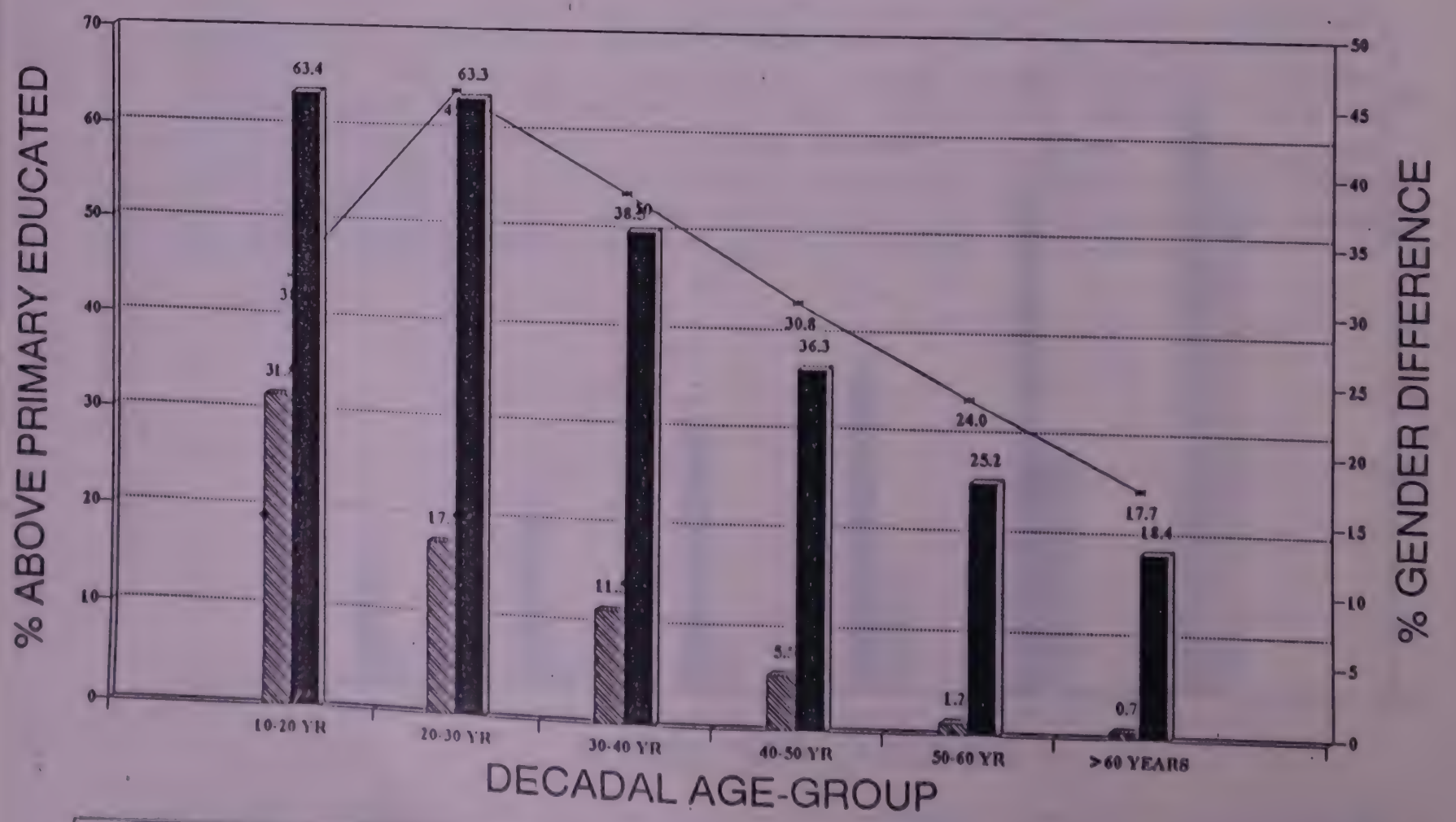
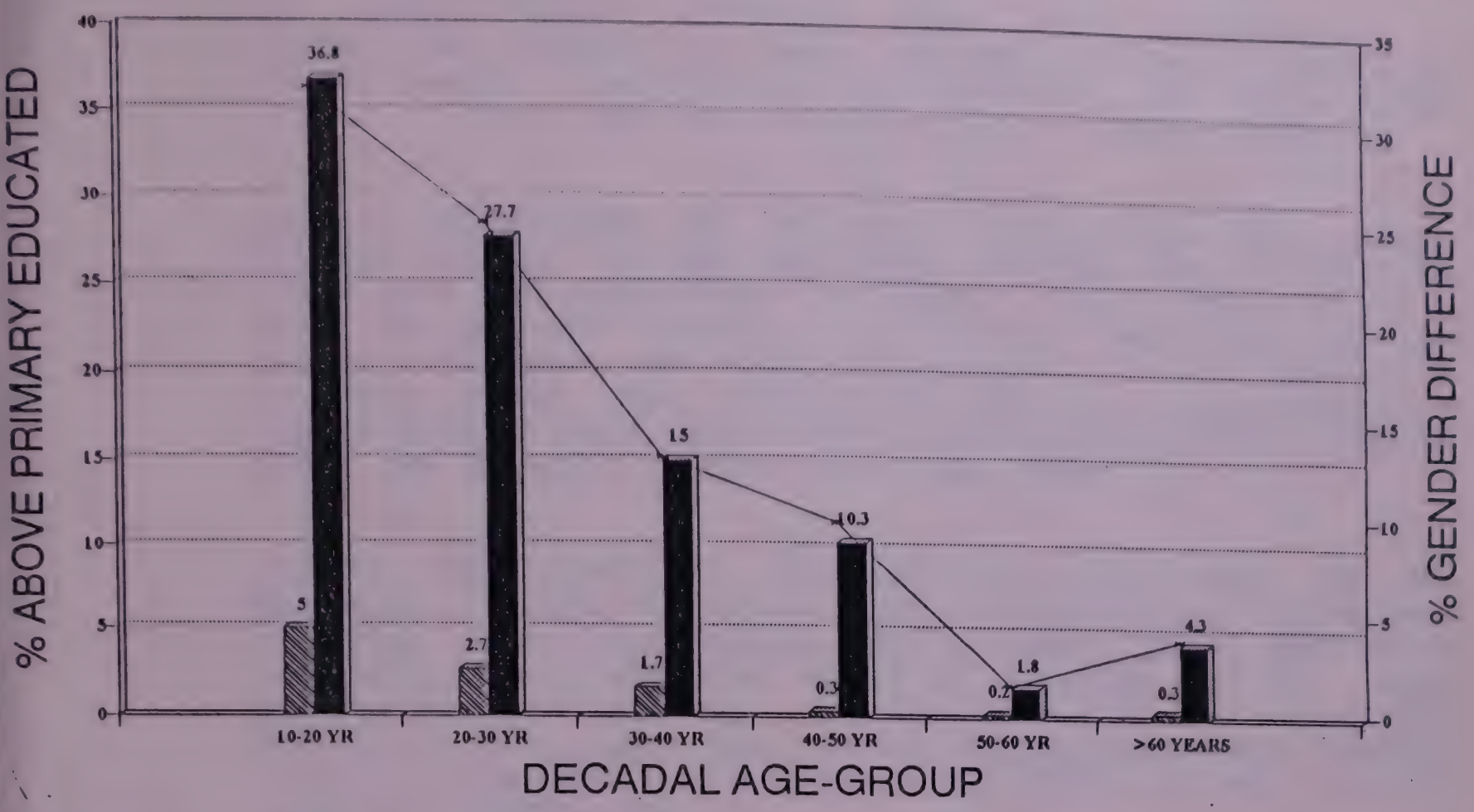
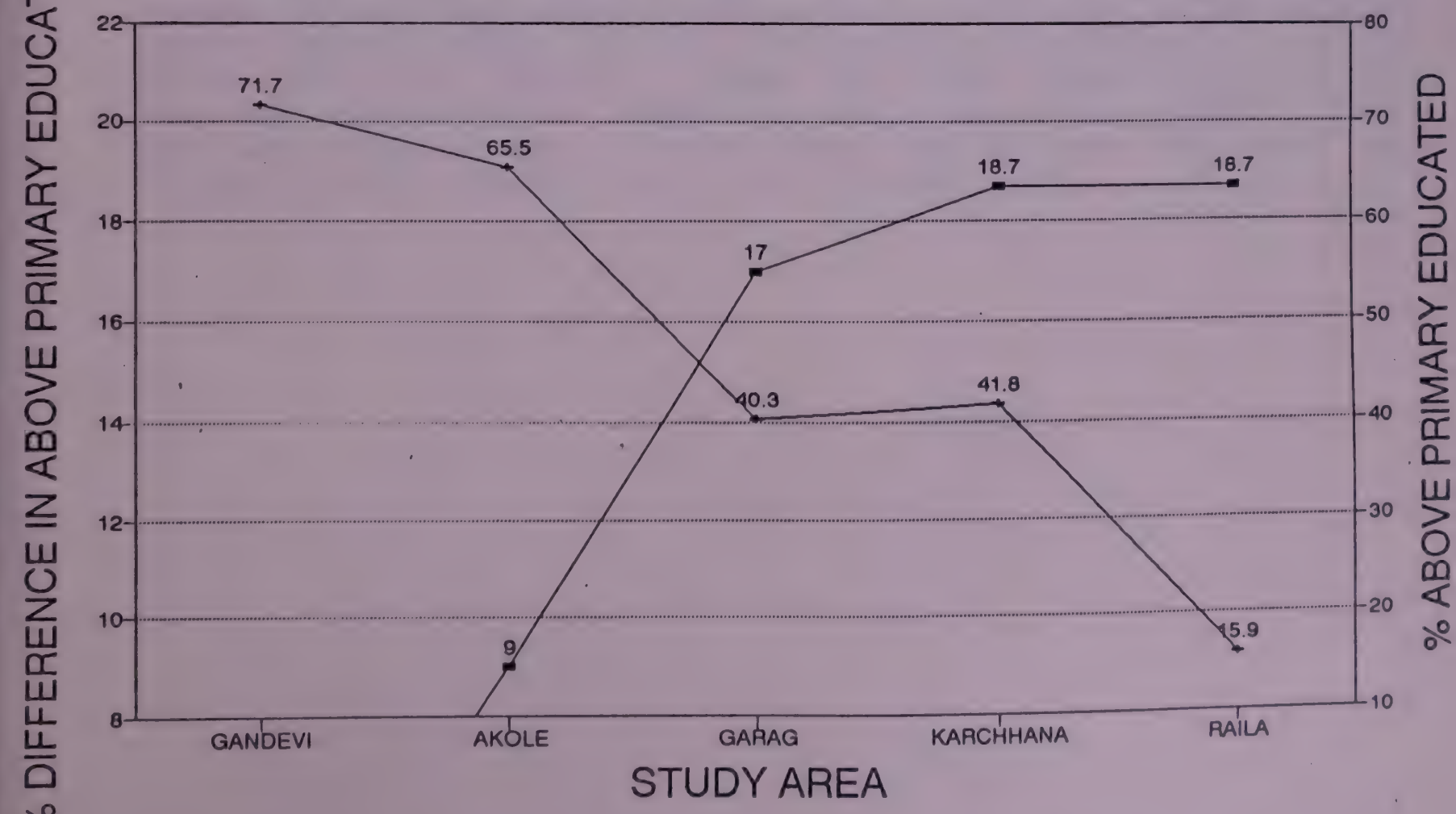


REDUCED GENDER DIFFERENCES OVER DECADES
IN >PRIMARY EDUCATION, RAILA (RAJ)



GENDER DIFFERENCE IN EDUCATION
AND EDUCATIONAL LEVEL IN 9-15 CHILDREN



In Gandevi (Guj) although there were differences in educational levels of women and men (between twenty to thirty years), there was no difference in the educational levels of girls and boys between ten to twenty years.

Gender differences in various Caste-groups and Asset-holding-groups, in the children between nine to fifteen years were not significant in Gandevi (Guj). While in Raila (Raj) educational levels in girls were very low, and the gender difference was highly significant, in all subgroups. In other areas, the differences were not significant in higher castes and higher asset holding households. **Table 2** gives the details of this improving trend.

Higher the level of education in the woman in the household, lesser were the gender differences. These were not significant in Gandevi (Guj), Akole (Mah) and above secondary level educated women in Karchhana (U.P.). When the factors influencing education were examined separately for girls and boys, the gender differences were present only in areas with relatively lower levels of education in children. **(Table 2A)**

Child nutrition scenario :

Nutritional status of preschool children varied across the study areas. It was the worst in Raila (Raj) with only 24.6% children having Normal weight for age, followed by Karchhana (U.P.) with 25.9% children 'Normal'. These two study areas did not have ongoing activities of Integrated Child Nutrition Scheme (ICDS). Besides in Raila (Raj), health care facility was very poor, and Primary Health Centres had very limited reach.

Gender differences in child nutrition -

Girls and boys in various age-groups from the study areas were compared for proportions having severe degree of malnutrition (Gr.III). It was seen that as a group of under five children, there were no apparent differences between girls and boys.

When Chi square test was applied to the proportions of children malnourished in specific age-groups; some significant differences were observed. **(Table 3)** In Akole (Mah) the girls were worse in one to two year age-group but significantly better in two to three year age-group. In Garag (Kar) the girls in one to two year age-group were nutritionally poorer than boys. However, these differences were not significant when ANOVA was done.

Similarly, no gender related differences were demonstrated in the nutritional status of preschool children based on caste or Asset holding levels in the household, in majority of the study areas. **(Table 4.1 to 4.5)**

Extremely interesting differences were seen in the factors influencing nutrition when an identical regression equation was applied separately for girls and boys. Educational level, especially in adult male member in the family, influenced the weight-for-age (Nutritional status) of the boys only. where as other factors like belonging to lower castes, food shortage faced by the family, use of safe drinking water source, size and type of the family etc. influenced nutrition in girls. **(Table 5)**

Immunization of children :

Immunization coverage for children between one to two years, varied considerably in the five study areas. It was highest, over 90% in Gandevi (Guj) and lowest, barely 10% in Raila (Raj). This situation was parallel to the existing Primary Health Care (PHC) infrastructure and reach in these areas.

Gender differences in immunization -

The immunization coverage is dependent on both the quality of services provided as well as acceptance by the people. When the immunization in girls and boys between one to two years was compared, no differences were seen. **(Table 6)**

Utilization of health care :

In each of the study areas prevalence of reported sickness varied. Number of preschool children reported to be suffering from diarrhoea or respiratory infection ranged from 2.4% in boys in Gandevi (Guj) to 23.5% in girls in Karchhana (U.P.). In all the areas, people preferred private practitioners, except in Raila (Raj) where there were no doctors practising in the villages.

The Gender differences -

However, there were no gender differences noted in the reported sick or in case of illness, in seeking modern medical care. **(Table 7)**

Table 8 gives the number of women and men reporting having sickness in the week preceding the survey, and the proportion of sick persons availing of various levels of medical care. Here too there were no gender differences in utilization of health care.

DISCUSSION :

In our effort to examine the differences between girls and boys, and women and men; we examined their current nutritional status, their educational attainments, vis a vis their family backgrounds. Comparison between the factors influencing the nutrition or education in girls and boys was done to understand the mechanisms (if any) leading to differential status in them.

As opposed to the earlier studies, no gender differences were present in the nutritional status of girls and boys from the study areas. The differences were largely absent even when subgroups of population, by caste and asset holding of the household, were compared. We found statistically significant differences only in one or two age-groups in two areas, which were both against and in favour of the girls.

Immunization levels in one to two year old children, number of children reported sick or receiving medical care did not show any gender differences. Neither were there any gender differences in availing of medical care from various types of providers, in sick women and men.

Gender differences were present in the educational status of girls and boys in four out of five areas. Here too, the differences were not significant as the social position (higher caste) and economic status (asset holding) of the household improved.

A trend of reducing differences between the female and male educational levels was observed in all areas, running parallel to the improving education in the population. This again aligned itself to the infrastructure and facility present in the area.

The factors influencing nutritional status in girls and boys varied. The boys' nutrition depended on the level of education in the household, be it in the man or the woman. Where as for the girls, factors like 'low caste', 'larger family size' and 'food shortage in the family' had negative influence.

The factors affecting education varied in two of the five areas, where educational levels in girls were very low. In Garag (Kar), asset holding in the family mattered for girl's education, where as the caste mattered in the boy's. In Raila (Raj), the girl's education benefited by education in the female family member and was hampered due to larger family size. Where as in boys, these factors did not make a difference.

CONCLUSIONS :

There is a trend towards reducing differences over the decades as the infrastructure, facility and social sector services improve. This is supported by the fact that the levels of nutrition in pre-school children and education in nine to fifteen year old children, largely run parallel to the available facility in the area. With improving social and economic position of the family, the gender differences start disappearing, and the process is complete with over all improvement in the reach of the services.

We conclude that the gender differences in India are gradually reducing and disappearing as the development progresses. However, there is a need to closely study the processes and differential factors influencing the processes in girls and boys, and plan development inputs accordingly; in order to foster this observed positive trend.

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TABLES SECTION

TABLE 1 : STUDY AREAS AND POPULATIONS

AREA	HOUSEHOL	POPULATION		
		ABOV 9 YR.	9-15 YR	UNDER 5 YR.
GANDEVI (GUJARAT)	3212	12087	1920	783
AKOLE (MAHARASHTR)	3005	13698	2647	1402
GARAG (KARNATAK)	3101	15762	3130	1396
KARCHHANA (U.P.)	2826	12083	2579	1584
RAILA (RAJASTHAN)	3007	11721	1971	1146

TABLE 2 : EDUCATIONAL LEVELS AND GENDER DIFFERENCES IN FIVE STUDY AREAS

FACTOR	GANDEVI (G	AKOLE (M	GARAG (K	KARCHANA(	RAILA (RAJ
EDUCATION IN >9					
% < P educated	46.8	55.9	69.3	64.9	88.0
GENDER DIFFEREN					
Age-groups					
10 - 20 YR	N.S.	Sig.	Sig.	Sig.	Sig.
20 - 30 YR	Sig.	Sig.	Sig.	Sig.	Sig.
Caste Grp.	N.S.	Sig.	Sig.	Sig.	Sig.
	in High Caste				
	& Other Hind				
Asset Grp.	N.S.	Sig.	Sig.	Sig.	Sig.
	in > Rs.5,000				
EDUCATION IN 9-1					
% > P educated	71.7%	65.5	40.3	41.8	15.9
Gender differences					
Caste/Religion	N.S.	N.S.	N.S.	N.S.	N.S.
	in All	in Other	in High	in Muslim	in High
Asset Grp.	N.S.	N.S.	N.S.	N.S.	Sig.
	in All	in Rs.5-11,0	> Rs.11,00	> Rs.100,00	in All
Woman's Educ.	N.S.	N.S.	Sig.	N.S	Sig.
				in > S educ.	

NOTE : N.S. = Not Significant, Sig. = Statistically significant

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TABLE 2 (A) : FACTORS INFLUENCING EDUCATION OF 9-15 YEAR CHILDREN

FACTOR	GANDEVI (G	AKOLE (M	GARAG (K	KARCHHAN	RAILA (RAJ
Girls					
Adult woman's edu	**	**	**	**	**
Adult man's educ.	**	**	Not used	Not used	**
Caste group	**	**	N.S.	*	*
Asset group	N.S.	N.S.	*	N.S.	N.S.
Aquired assets	Not used	**	Not used	N.S.	Not used
Food shortage	Not used	*	Not used	Not used	Not used
Migration	Not used	*	Not used	Not used	Not used
Family size	Not used	N.S.	Not used	Not used	. **
Boys					
Adult woman's edu	**	**	**	**	N.S.
Adult man's educ.	**	**	Not used	Not used	**
Caste group	**	**	*	*	*
Asset group	N.S.	N.S.	N.S.	N.S.	N.S.
Aquired assets	Not used	**	Not used	N.S.	Not used
Food shortage	Not used	*	Not used	Not used	Not used
Migration	Not used	**	Not used	Not used	Not used
Family size	Not used	N.S.	Not used	Not used	N.S.

NOTE : In Karchhana (U.P.) dummy variables for each caste group were used.
Belonging to higher or dominant caste group was positively correlated (5% level sig.) and belonging to SC/ST was negatively correlated (1% level sig.)
Being Muslim was negatively correlated (1% level sig.) in boys only.

In Raila (Rajasthan) belonging to Dominant caste has negative influence on boy's education. Also belonging to SC/ST has negative influence in boys only.

TABLE 3: SEVERE MALNUTRITION IN BOYS AND GIRLS IN DIFFERENT AGE-GROUPS

% GRIII W\A	GANDEVI (GUJARAT)			AKOLE(MAHARASHTRA)			GARAG (KARANATAK)			KARCHHANA (U.P.)			RAILA (RAJASTHAN)		
AGE GROUP	BOYS	GIRLS	SIG.	BOYS	GIRLS	SIG.	BOYS	GIRLS	SIG.	BOYS	GIRLS	SIG.	BOYS	GIRLS	SIG.
UP TO 6 MTHS	0.0	5.0	nil	6.1	8.4	nil	0.0	0.0	nil	8.1	9.2	nil	10.8	5.3	nil
N (TOTAL)	40	45	(85)	36	49	(85)	34	30	(64)	76	62	(138)	38	37	(75)
INFANTS 6-12 M	2.3	7.1	nil	12.0	8.4	nil	3.4	9.5	nil	29.2	19.1	nil	19.1	19.4	nil
N (TOTAL)	42	44	(86)	107	108	(215)	84	89	(173)	115	113	(228)	98	110	(208)
ONE-TWO YR	9.6	7.9	nil	4.6	10.5	*	9.5	19.8	*	17.3	23.0	nil	28.5	28.0	nil
N (TOTAL)	75	73	(148)	153	173	(326)	126	179	(305)	165	173	(338)	118	144	(262)
TWO-THREE YR	8.3	9.7	nil	10.1	4.1	*	11.4	6.5	nil	20.1	19.5	nil	19.5	15.7	nil
N (TOTAL)	93	108	(201)	169	179	(348)	154	166	(320)	164	194	(358)	153	133	(286)
THREE-FOUR YR	11.4	11.5	nil	8.2	4.6	nil	11.0	9.1	nil	19.4	12.0	nil	23.9	17.2	nil
N (TOTAL)	61	79	(140)	131	147	(278)	157	164	(321)	142	170	(312)	87	117	(204)
FOUR-FIVE YR	12.3	6.9	nil	9.7	10.3	nil	10.1	11.7	nil	14.5	9.3	nil	20.0	19.5	nil
N (TOTAL)	58	65	(123)	78	72	(150)	94	119	(213)	86	124	(210)	41	70	(111)
TOTAL	8.2	8.4	nil	8.4	7.4	nil	9.2	10.8	nil	17.9	16.6	nil	21.9	18.9	nil
N (TOTAL)	369	414	(783)	674	728	(1402)	649	747	(1396)	748	836	(1584)	535	611	(1146)

TABLE 4.1 : GENDER DIFFERENCES IN NUTRITION OF PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN GANDEVI (GUJARAT), 1994.

SUBGROUP Based on	Female		Male		Sig. of
	% GR.III	(N)	% GR.III	(N)	Difference
ASSET HOLDING					
No Assets	12.0	100	11.2	125	NS
Upto Rs.5000	9.8	153	9.0	155	NS
Rs.5-11,000	3.3	30	6.7	30	NS
Rs.11-100,000	4.2	72	3.4	89	NS
> Rs.100,000	0.0	14	6.7	15	NS
CASTES/RELIGION					
Dominant	2.9	139	7.5	161	NS
Higher	20.0	5	0.0	12	NS
Other	4.8	21	6.2	41	NS
OBC	-	1	-	1	-
Scheduled Caste	17.6	17	3.7	27	NS
Scheduled Tribe	12.0	184	10.4	182	NS
WOMAN-EDUCATION					
Less than P	12.3	163	9.1	169	*
Primary	7.4	94	12.1	132	NS
Secondary	3.8	79	2.5	80	NS
Graduate/Tech.	3.2	33	3.0	33	NS

Note : * = significant at 5% level

NS = Not Significant

TABLE 4.2 : GENDER DIFFERENCES IN NUTRITION OF PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN AKOLE (MAHARASHTRA), 1994.

SUBGROUP Based on	Female		Male		Sig. of
	% GR.III	(N)	% GR.III	(N)	Difference
ASSET HOLDING					
No Assets	10.9	175	8.0	199	NS
Upto Rs.5000	12.1	140	9.8	143	NS
Rs.5-11,000	2.8	36	6.5	31	NS
Rs.11-100,000	4.4	296	7.8	334	NS
> Rs.100,000	0.0	27	14.3	21	NS
CASTES/RELIGION					
Dominant	5.9	376	5.8	398	NS
Higher	NA	NA	NA	NA	-
Other	0.0	1	50.0	4	NS
OBC	3.8	80	9.8	102	NS
Scheduled Caste	8.1	37	13.0	23	NS
Scheduled Tribe	12.2	180	11.4	201	NS
WOMAN-EDUCATION					
Less than P	8.8	411	9.0	429	NS
Primary	5.6	214	7.5	265	NS
Secondary	2.6	39	7.7	26	NS
Graduate/Tech.	11.1	10	28.6	8	NS

Note : NA = Not Applicable as only 12 families belonged to Higher caste.

NS = Not Significant

TABLE 4.3 : GENDER DIFFERENCES IN NUTRITION OF PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN GARAG (KARNATAK), 1994.

SUBGROUP Based on	Female		Male		Sig. of
	% GR.III	(N)	% GR.III	(N)	Difference
ASSET HOLDING					
No Assets	11.8	287	9.8	327	NS
Upto Rs.5000	8.0	137	9.8	123	NS
Rs.5-11,000	11.8	119	8.6	162	NS
Rs.11-100,000	12.0	83	7.2	111	NS
> Rs.100,000	4.3	23	12.5	24	NS
CASTES/RELIGION					
Dominant	7.9	316	8.2	364	NS
Higher	11.9	67	7.6	79	NS
Other	18.1	94	14.8	115	NS
OBC	15.4	13	8.3	12	NS
Scheduled Caste	11.1	90	10.2	88	*
Scheduled Tribe	11.6	69	6.7	89	NS
WOMAN-EDUCATION					
Less than P	11.2	466	10.8	506	NS
Primary	7.4	149	6.3	190	NS
Secondary	17.6	34	6.1	49	NS
Graduate/Tech.	.		0.0	2	_

Note : * = significant at 5% level

NS = Not Significant

TABLE 4.4 : GENDER DIFFERENCES IN NUTRITION OF PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN KARCHHANA (UTTAR PRADESH), 1994.

SUBGROUP Based on	Female		Male		Sig. of
	% GR.III	(N)	% GR.III	(N)	Difference
ASSET HOLDING					
No Assets	19.6	97	22.2	108	NS
Upto Rs.5000	19.3	471	19.1	518	NS
Rs.5-11,000	5.9	68	9.0	89	NS
Rs.11-100,000	9.7	93	16.5	109	NS
> Rs.100,000	5.3	19	8.3	12	NS
CASTES/RELIGION					
Dominant	8.7	23	12.0	25	NS
Higher	5.0	119	10.2	137	NS
Other	12.0	25	8.6	35	NS
OBC	14.3	237	18.4	267	NS
Scheduled Caste	27.8	263	22.1	289	NS
Scheduled Tribe	0.0	7	60.0	5	NS
Muslims	8.1	74	17.9	78	*
WOMAN-EDUCATION					
Less than P	18.3	636	19.7	702	NS
Primary	5.8	86	7.7	91	NS
Secondary	7.1	14	20.0	35	NS

Note : * = significant at 5% level

NS = Not Significant

TABLE 4.5 : GENDER DIFFERENCES IN NUTRITION OF PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN RAILA (RAJASTHAN), 1994.

SUBGROUP Based on	Female		Male		Sig. of
	% GR.III	(N)	% GR.III	(N)	Difference
ASSET HOLDING					
No Assets	25.9	58	20.0	75	NS
Upto Rs.5000	16.3	203	24.5	229	NS
Rs.5-11,000	21.5	79	20.2	89	NS
Rs.11-100,000	17.6	182	20.1	204	NS
> Rs.100,000	30.8	13	28.6	14	NS
CASTES					
Dominant	19.0	126	29.3	133	NS
Higher	16.2	37	21.4	28	NS
Other	17.5	171	16.2	198	NS
OBC	18.2	55	19.4	72	NS
Scheduled Caste	16.8	95	21.2	118	NS
Scheduled Tribe	29.4	51	29.0	62	NS
WOMAN-EDUCATION					
Less than P	19.0	517	22.4	586	NS
Primary	21.4	14	4.8	21	NS
Secondary	25.0	4	25.0	4	NS
MALE EDUCATION					
Less than P	19.6	359	25.3	440	NS
Primary	19.7	122	14.2	127	NS
Secondary	14.6	41	11.4	35	NS
Graduate/Tech.	15.4	13	11.1	9	NS

Note : NS = Not Significant

TABLE 5 : FACTORS INFLUENCING NUTRITIONAL STATUS OF GIRLS AND BOYS FROM FIVE STUDY AREAS IN INDIA, 1994.

FACTOR	GANDEVI (GUJ)		AKOLE (MAH)		GARAG (KAR)		KARCHHANA (		RAILA (RAJ)	
INFLUENCING NUT.	GIRL	BOY	GIRL	BOY	GIRL	BOY	GIRL	BOY	GIRL	BOY
AGE OF CHILD	-**	-**	-**	-**	-**	-**			-**	-**
FEMALE EDUC.						**	*			
MALE EDUCATION		**		*				*		**
LOW CASTE	-*		-*				-**	-#	-*	
SAFE WATER					**			**		
FAMILY SIZE					-**					
JOINT FAMILY								*	-#	
FOOD SHORTAGE	-*						-*			
LAND HOLDING										
MIGRATION										

Note :
'-' = Negative beta coefficient
* = significant at 5% level
** = significant at 1% level
# = approaching significance
Cells left as blanks are not significant

TABLE 6 : NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH COMPLETED PRIMARY IMMUNIZATION IN 1-2 YEAR AGE-GROUP

	Gandevi (Guj)		Akole (Mah)		Garag (Kar)		Karchha (U.P.)		Raila (Raj)	
	% com.I	N	% com.I	N	% com.I	N	% com.I	N	% com.I	N
GIRLS	92.2	77	51.6	153	56.0	125	32.1	165	11.9	118
BOYS	89.0	73	51.4	173	64.0	178	43.4	173	9.0	144
TOTAL	90.7	150	51.5	326	69.3	303	37.9	338	10.3	262

TABLE 7 : SICKNESS IN PRESCHOOL CHILDREN AND TREATMENT, BY GENDER FROM FIVE STUDY AREA IN INDIA, 1994.

	GANDEVI (GUJ)		AKOLE (MAH)		GARAG (KAR)		KARCHHANA (		RAILA (RAJ)	
	GIRL	BOY	GIRL	BOY	GIRL	BOY	GIRL	BOY	GIRL	BOY
TOTAL UNDER 5YR.	369	414	674	728	649	747	718	836	535	611
REPORTED SICK(N)	12	10	106	149	43	65	169	191	35	49
SICK %	3.3	2.4	15.7	20.5	6.6	8.7	23.5	22.9	6.5	8.0
% SICK TREATED	83.3	70.0	69.8	73.2	93.0	98.5	79.3	75.9	4.2	5.0
SIG.DIFFERENCE	NS		NS		NS		NS		NS	

Note : NS = Not Significant

TABLE 8 : UTILIZATION OF HEALTH CARE BY GENDER FROM FIVE STUDY AREAS IN INDIA, 1994.

	GANDEVI (GUJ)			AKOLE (MAH)			GARAG (KAR)			KARCHHANA (U.P)			RAILA (RAJ)		
	GIRL	BOY	Sig. Diff.	GIRL	BOY	Sig. Diff.	GIRL	BOY	Sig. Diff.	GIRL	BOY	Sig. Diff.	GIRL	BOY	Sig. Diff.
Reported Sick (N)	123	138		399	325		431	350		510	542		229	255	
Pvt.Treatment %	71.5	74.6	NS	66.4	67.4	NS	53.1	57.4	*	66.3	66.8	NS	11.4	7.5	NS
PHC Treatment %	21.1	19.6	NS	18	16.9	NS	23.9	20.9	NS	13.9	18.3	NS	45.4	49.8	NS
No Treatment %	4.1	3.6	NS	11.8	8	NS	24.1	18	NS	9.4	9.2	NS	44.9	41.2	NS
Traditional Healer	NA	NA		NA	NA		NA	NA		NA	NA		21.4	16.1	

Note : N S = Not Significant, N A = Not Applicable.

THE BAIF MISSION

BAIF's mission is to create opportunities of gainful self-employment for the rural families, especially disadvantaged sections, ensuring sustainable livelihood, enriched environment, improved quality of life and good human values.

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